

**SECRET**

*Laos funding file*

The FY 1973 military assistance service funded budget for Laos is designed to support the following force levels:

<u>Force Levels</u>	<u>(in millions \$) Amount</u>
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25X1A

Estimated US Federal Expenditures during FY 1973 for the purpose of economic and military assistance to Laos as defined in Section 505 (a) and (b) of Public Law 92-156 are estimated as follows:

	<u>(in millions \$)</u>
Military Assistance Services Funded	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px;"></div>
Economic Assistance	
Military Intelligence	
	425.6

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\* Totals not classified

\*\* Of the above funding levels, only the Military Intelligence Budget is classified Secret; however, when these programs are used in a manner that would reveal the amount of the Intelligence Budget, all figures must be considered Secret.

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**UNCLASSIFIED**

The FY 1973 Military Assistance Service Funded Budget for Laos is designed to support a total regular and irregular force level of 99,685 at a total cost of \$360 million.

US federal expenditures during FY 1973 for the purpose of economic and military assistance to Laos as defined in Section 505(a) and (b) of Public Law 92-156 is estimated to be \$425.6 million.

The State Department advises that in FY 73 they hope to implement a program of improving the Lao armed forces. The FY 73 MASF request is believed to be at a level which will permit the funding of the equipment required to begin such a program. As for a military operational plan for FY 73, the initiative in the war in Laos rests with the North Vietnamese. It is the level of the North Vietnamese presence and the nature and location of their offensives which dictate the Lao responses. According to Ambassador Godley, who has principal responsibility for the US military support efforts in Laos, the Royal Lao Government believes that the level of North Vietnamese aggression will be in FY 73 approximately that of FY 72. US support will accordingly be required at approximately the level of FY 72.

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